Relaxation to sportsmen and folk artists in Railways

†*168. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the relaxation being provided to sportsmen and folk artists in employment has been withdrawn;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of persons from arts and sports, so far, absorbed in various departments?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the last three years (1999-2000 to 2001 -2002) approximately 40 persons have been appointed against the Cultural Quota and about 1050 against the Sports Quota in various Departments of Indian Railways.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

*169. SHRI R. S. GAVAI:
SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that States are showing lukewarm attitude towards the 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' Scheme of Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have considered the recommendations made by Tapas Majumdar Committee in its report regarding financial assistance needed for education sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(f) the names of the other international participant countries in the said 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' with details thereof?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.